



APRIL - JUNE

10¢

ZANE GREY'S

KING

of the ROYAL MOUNTED

WHAT WAS IT KING PURSUED . . . MAN OR SPIRIT?

"birds of the arctic"



The snowbird It really takes stalwart birds to brave the Arctic winters. Some of them, like the snowbird, a sparrowlike bird, remain even in the severe winter, unless the snowfall becomes so heavy that they cannot obtain food. The snowbird's coloration is largely white, wings and tail being white as well as the rest of the body. This coloring distinguishes it from all other North American birds. The snowbird, like the skylark, sings in flight, and its sweet notes have been compared to those of the bobolink.



The puffin One of the strangest looking birds in the Arctic is the puffin or sea parrot. It is an odd-looking bird with a large head and high, flattened bill. The bill has an outer shell that the bird sheds each year. This bird is an expert swimmer and diver and has been known to catch from 5 to 10 small fish, allowing them to hang down from their gills while still attached to his bill and yet catch more fish without dropping them. The puffin comes to land only in the breeding season which is in June and July. It nests in large colonies on rocky coasts, depositing one white egg in a burrow or crevice of the rocks.



The ptarmigan The ptarmigan is a grouselike bird which inhabits the northern regions. One interesting thing about this bird is the covering of short feathers on its feet. Nature has provided the ptarmigan with almost perfect protective coloration. In winter, its coat is pure white, while in summer it becomes a mixture of reddish-brown, buff grey and black. The ptarmigan nests among mosses on the ground and may lay anywhere from 6 to 11 eggs.

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ZANE GREY'S KING of the ROYAL MOUNTED THE STOLEN WEAPON



SERGEANT KING, THIS TELETYPE MESSAGE I HAVE JUST RECEIVED WILL BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO YOU---SINCE YOU WILL BE ON DUTY TONIGHT



SURROUNDED TO THE OFFICE, THE MEMBERS OF THE WOLF RIVER DETACHMENT HANG UPON THE WORDS OF INSPECTOR MAC

AN RCMP PLANE HAD BEEN STOLEN FROM THE QUEEN CITY AIRPORT! IT WAS CARRYING A TEST MODEL OF A NEW, SUPER-SECRET WEAPON, DESTINED FOR THE PROOING GROUND AT WHITE SANDS. THE PLANE WAS SHORT OF FUEL.



SEARCH PLANES ARE NOW IN THE AIR, OF COURSE! ALL DETACHMENTS AND POSTS OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED WITHIN THIS RADIUS MUST BE READY TO CONVERGE ON ANY POINT WHERE A WRECK MAY BE SPOTTED! THAT IS ALL



MEANWHILE, AT A LONELY CABIN IN THE "BUSH", NOT MANY MILES DISTANT, A "MERCY" PLANE IS LOADING A VICTIM OF POLIO.



PLEASE LET ME HELP, KID! IT'S TOO HEAVY FOR YOU

SHURE---NOT THANKS JUST THE SAME, BUCKE HARLEY---GON' HERE WE GO



DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS

A CLOUD OF SMOKE, WHIPPED UP BY THE PROP WASH, SHUTS OUT THE FADING LIGHT OF THE LOG CABIN









THEY'RE HALF A MILE AWAY--- BUT THE MOON-LIGHT--- MAYBE I'LL HAVE TIME TO TRY THE RADIO!



CALLING THE MOUNTED POLICE--- WOLF RIVER DETACHMENT? CALLING MOUNTED POLICE---PILOT JAMES LORING'S PLANE---

COME IN, LORING? SERGEANT KING SPEAKING



KING! THIS IS KING! PILOT LORING IS DEAD---RESIDE ME--- SHOT DOWN! LANDED ON A SMALL LAKE--- WITH NURSE MARLEY AND A POLIO PATIENT! MEN WHO SHOT US DOWN ARE COMING ..

S.T.D.-2



WE WERE HEADED TOWARD QUEEN CITY--- FROM THREE CREEK, NEAR DENICK'S FARM! I'VE GOT TO SCRAM! ---GET NURSE MARLEY AWAY! OVER!

KID! LEAVE THE RADIO SIGNAL ON--- SO WE CAN GET A "FIX" ON YOUR POSITION! GOOD LUCK! OVER!











AN HOUR LATER---FACE TO FACE WITH INSPECTOR MAC---

KID IS SURE OF HIS FACTS, INSPECTOR!

YES, EVIDENTLY! WE'VE CHECKED THEM TWICE, KID!



IT'S CLEAR THAT THE GARS FOUND THEIR STEALER PLANE SHORT OF FUEL--- LANDED ON THAT LITTLE LAKE, AND HAD IT IN A GOVE SHOOTING DOWN LOBING'S PLANE WITH A FUEL SUPPLY INTACT WAS JUST LUCK! BUT WHAT WE NEED MOST TO KNOW---



IS THERE ANY MORE READER? CAN'T YOU THINK OF ANYTHING YOU SAW--- OR HEARD, KID. THAT WOULD HELP US TO FIGURE ---

YES, SIR! I'D FORGOTTEN UNTIL NOW



I DID HEAR ONE OF THE GUYS SAY "THERE WER TO INTERLAKEN" AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT IT SOUNDED LIKE! I DON'T KNOW OF ANY SUCH PLACE ..



THERE IS AN INTERLAKEN IN SWITZERLAND, AND ONE OR TWO MORE PLACES OF THAT NAME IN THE STATES, BUT I DON'T KNOW

I DO, SIR! IT'S NOT A TOWN--- JUST A PRIVATE ESTATE, BACK IN THE BUSH, ABOUT FIFTY MILES NORTH OF HERE! LOCALLY IT'S CALLED,---



---"PERISCOUR'S FOLLY"! THERE'S A BIG STONE "CASTLE", I UNDERSTAND, AND A GAME PARK, AND SOME SMALL LAKES---OWNED BY A WEALTHY ECCENTRIC NAMED PERISCOUR...



UMMM, ALEXANDER PERROUD? THAT NAME IS FAMILIAR. HE'S AN ARTIST---AND A WEALTHY MAN WITH IMPORTANT FRIENDS. NO, NO? IT'S NOT LIKELY.



YOU'RE SURE IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN SOME OTHER WORD, KID---OR SOMETHING SPOKEN WITH A FOREIGN ACCENT?

TWO OF THEM DID HAVE AN ACCENT? THEY SAID A FEW WORDS IN A FOREIGN TONGUE, BUT "INTERLAKEN" IS ALL I REMEMBER, SIR.



ALL RIGHT, KID? YOU'D BETTER DRIVE KID TO HIS HOME* IN THE MORNING. WE'LL SEE.

YES, SIR!



LATER

KID? WHY COULDN'T PERROUD'S ESTATE BE THE "INTERLAKEN" THEY WERE HEARD FOR? IT SEEMS TO ME ---



--- THAT A WILDERNESS ESTATE, WITH FROZEN LAKES FOR LANDSCAPE, WOULD BE A LIKELY PLACE? EVEN IF PERROUD HIMSELF WERE NOT MIXED UP IN IT? HE MIGHT BE AWAY.

DON'T WORRY, KID? THERE WILL BE SOME CHECK MADE.



HERE WE ARE AT YOUR DOOR, KID!



WELL, KIMB --- THE INSPECTOR SEEMED SO --- SO BACK
ABOUT IT ALL! WITH POOR LORNE DEAD --- AND NURSE
WARLEY KIDNAPPED --- AND THE GOVERNMENT'S
NEW SECRET WEAPON STOLEN ---

I KNOW,
KIM!

BUT A MAN DOESN'T GET TO BE INSPECTOR BY
DOING A WAX DANCE OVER EVERY BAD SITU-
TION! THAT BARK WILL BE CAUGHT ---
TRUST THE ROYAL MOUNTED!

NEXT MORNING --- BOB AND HIS MOTHER ARE
EATING BREAKFAST

YOU DON'T LOOK AS IF YOU'D SLEPT WELL LAST
NIGHT, SON! AND I DON'T WORRY --- AFTER THAT
TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE! BUT YOU WILL HAVE
THE WEEK-END TO REST

UM-
HMMM!

YOU'RE
BORED
OUT,
SON?

I GUESS I'LL TRY OUT MY NEW SHOW-
MOBILE, MOM! IT'S JUST FINISHED
SO IF YOU COULD PUT ME UP A
BIG LUNCH ---

SO LONG, MOM! IF I'M NOT
BACK TILL TOMORROW
NIGHT, DON'T WORRY!

BE CAREFUL,
SON --- PLEASE! ---
WHEREVER YOU
GO ---

THE ENGINE RUMS LIKE A TOP! GUSS I DID A
PRETTY GOOD JOB ON THOSE RINGS AND VALVES!
I'LL MAKE THAT FIFTY MILES TO INTERLAKEN
BEFORE NOON --- FOLLOWING THE RIVER!

YES! THE RIVER IS THE SHORTEST ROUTE--
AND THE ICE DUNNET STILL BE SAFE...
AND HERE'S INTERLAKEN --- ANYHOW,
THREE SMALL LAKES CLOSE TOGETHER,
WITH A GROUP OF BUILDINGS IN THE
MIDDLE . IT ISN'T NAMED AS FINE
CONTOUR MAP?



FOR NEARLY FIVE HOURS, RIO'S SNOWMOBILE FOLLOWS THE
COURSE OF A FROZEN WILDERNESS STREAM, AND THEN ---



I'LL GO THROUGH THE "BUSH" HERE---
STRAIGHT NORTH! OUGHT TO HIT THE
FENCE OF PERISSOURD'S GAME PARK
BEFORE LONG



THERE IT IS!
I'LL HIDE MY
MACHINE HERE
IN THE TREES



THAT FENCE WILL BE A TOUGH ONE TO
CLIMB --- ESPECIALLY THE BARBED
WIRE AT THE TOP! BUT I CAN DO IT!



I'LL TOSSE
THESE OVER
FIRST---



MEANWHILE, AT THE WOLF RIVER HEADQUARTERS—

WELL, KIM— I HAVE CHECKED WITH THE REAR AND EVERY POLICE POST WITHIN A THOUSAND MILES RADIUS! THERE'S NO REPORT ON THE MISSING PLANE.

SO IT MUST HAVE LANDED AND FOUND A HIDING PLACE!



YES, A HIDING PLACE— ALMOST CERTAINLY BEFORE DAYLIGHT! AND NEAR A SPOT WHERE CONFEDERATES COULD SUPPLY FUEL! NIGHT LANDING WITHOUT LIGHTS WOULD PROBABLY MEAN A LAKE, SO—



YOU AND CONSTABLE BLAKE WILL LEAVE AT DAWN FOR INTERLAKEN— ALEXANDER PERIBOURD'S ESTATE! DO WHAT SEARCHING YOU CAN BEFORE DARK, AND THEN CONTINUE IN THE MORNING!

VERY GOOD, SIR! WE'LL BE THERE IN ABOUT AN HOUR!

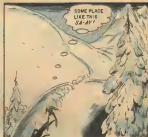


THE LAKES DON'T SHOW UP PRETTY SOON! THEY'RE OVER IN THIS DIRECTION— ACCORDING TO THE MAP!



HERE THEY ARE! AND PERIBOURD'S "CASTLE", TOO! WOW! WHAT A PILE OF STONE!





THIS IS IT, ALL RIGHT! THEY LANDED HERE LAST NIGHT---AND PULLED ALL THIS GARBAGE OVER IT, KNOWING THAT THE FALLING SNOW WOULD COMPLETE THE JOB



THAT STOLEN SECRET WEAPON COULD BE HERE, STILL!



ONLY THING---I HAVEN'T ANY IDEA WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE--- HERE! I DON'T SEE I GUESS THEY'VE TAKEN IT AWAY.



ONE THING IS PRETTY SURE--- THEY MUST HAVE GOTTEN HELP FROM THE CASTLE--- TO COVER THIS PLANE---WHICH PROBABLY MEANS THAT PERKINS IS IN CAMOOTS WITH HIS COUNTRY'S ENEMIES!



IT'S BETTER SET BACK TO WORK WITH WHAT I KNOW, AND NOT FOOLED AROUND---



YOU'VE LOOKED AROUND TOO LONG, I THINK!

GET! WHO ARE YOU---









STEN ROACH IS ONE OF MY BEST FORESTERS, GENTLEMEN! HE CAN SHOW YOU ALL THE LIKELY LANDING PLACES! THOUGH I GREATLY FEAR YOU ARE WASTING YOUR TIME!

WHICH REMAINS TO BE DECIDED! PERHAPS!



ANY PLANE LANDING ON THIS LAKE WOULD HAVE BEEN SEEN FROM THE CASTLE

YOU THINK SO? WE'LL HAVE A LOOK, JUST THE SAME, ROACH!



YES! WE'RE ON THE TRAIL OF SOMETHING, BLACKIE!



LOOK! SOMEBODY HAS CUT A HOLE THERE--- EXPOSED SOME CANALS!

THAT'S FUNNY, KING! A LOT OF BIG TRACKS AND FOOTPRINTS, TOO!





ODDLY, THE BLACKIE'S NEXT SWING,
KING LANDS A SHORT PUNCH...



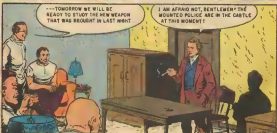












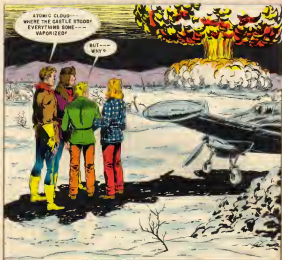












ATOMIC CLOUD---
WHERE THE CASTLE STOOD!
EVERYTHING GONE---
VAPORIZED!

BUT---
WHY?



WE COULD ASK PERSGOLD!
BUT I'M AFRAID---



HE'S DEAD, BLAKE!
MY GUESS IS
THAT HE
WANTED TO
Wipe OUT
EVIDENCE
THAT WOULD
EXPOSE HIS
SPY RING
CONTACTS
ABROAD!

REASONABLE!
AND HE'D STILL
HAVE GOTTEN
AWAY, PERHAPS--
IF HE AIN'T
FUDGED HIM
BY SHOWING UP!
JUST THEN!



WELL, KID,
WE HAVE
A LONG
WALK AHEAD
OF US---
UNLESS
YOU CARE
BY CAR

MY SNOWMOBILE,
AND IT'S PARKED
JUST OUTSIDE THE
FENCE! AND WE'D
BETTER LEAVE
BEFORE THAT
RADIOACTIVE ASH
STARTS TO
SPRINKLE DOWN
ON US!